

MM93-48

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I am writing to encourage you to
strengthen the regulations of the
Children's Television Act. It is
shameful that stations have claimed
The Flintstones and Leave It to Beaver
are educational. Our children deserve
much better. Please assure they get it.
Dick Sliff, 1504 Country Oaks, Lake Wales, FL 33853

MM 96-46
0015001

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MAY 03 1993

FCC MAIL ROOM

400 Shady Street Lane
Franklin, T. N. 37064
April 21, 1993

Dear Mr. Duplop,
I am nine years old and in 3rd
grade. I go to Moore Elementary
in Franklin, Tennessee. I have
2 brothers and 1 sister. I don't
like the program Ren and Stimpy
because of the bad things.

Sincerely,
Penny Eldred

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MAY 03 1993

FCC MAIL ROOM

April 25, 1993

James Quello Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 Main Street
Washington DC 20554

Dear Mr. Quello: I understand that the FCC is seeking comment from the public on suggestions for revisions to the Children's Television Act.


First of all, I commend you for your study on the Children's Television Act. Surely our children are our most precious resource and what they absorb from television programming is a subject worthy of most careful and sober study.

I am especially concerned about the violent and anti-family messages that children receive today. And I think it is difficult to distinguish between "children's" programs and others because, let's face it, children watch television all day. Anything which is broadcast over the airwaves-even pay channels- is being watched by thousands, perhaps millions of young minds.

In Michael Medved's bestseller "Hollywood vs. America" he says "more than three thousand research projects and scientific studies between 1960 and 1992 have confirmed the connection between a steady diet of violent entertainment and aggressive and antisocial behavior." A Dr. Jennings Bryant of the University of Alabama declares that some of the most durable and important effects of watching television come in the form of subtle, incremental, cumulative changes in the way we view the world and cites three carefully constructed research studies which indicate that "heavy exposure to prime-time programming featuring intimacy between unmarried people can clearly result in altered moral judgment".

In short, my recommendation is that the FCC take a tough stance in enforcing the educational components of the CTA. Don't accept the Flintstones as educational programming. But please remember that steady exposure to graphic violence and the glorification of illicit sexual conduct and suggestive dialogue gives our children an education, a lesson if you will that they would be better off not hearing.

Sincerely,


Pamela K. Webb
2642 Woodland Rd
Ambridge PA 15003

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MMB ENFORCEMENT
COMPLAINTS &
INVESTIGATIONS

MM 93-48

1520 Hurlbut Lane
Sebastopol, CA 95472
April 21, 1993
00050081

Federal Communications Commission:

As you consider new rules and regulations regarding television directed at children, please be aware that here, in Sonoma County, there are many concerned parents and individuals already acting on the behalf of children.

What bothers me as the countless numbers of homes in which there are no responsible adults present or aware of what a steady diet of violence is doing to children — and, by extension, to the whole fabric of our national life.

Please be responsible adults and act as caring parents would.

Thank you,

Claine H. Schwartz

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Sonoma County kids willingly turn off TV for week

FINA ANIMA
Staff Writer

Thousands of local children and their families could go without television for a week in May during the second "Sonoma County TV Turn-off."

So far, 26 schools throughout Sonoma County — both public and private — have signed up for the turn-off. As many as 13,000 children from 520 classrooms throughout the county could switch off their sets during the third week of May, said organizer Ben Fishbaine, a Roseland School kindergarten teacher.

This year's TV turn-off is different than last year's event, in which children from 22 elementary schools agreed to pull the plug on

their televisions for three weeks. This time, participants will ease into a weeklong turn-off with two weeks of gradually reduced watching.

Last May, three weeks without television proved too much for some families.

"There were a number of people who said they were turned off to the turn-off because it was too hard," Fishbaine said. "People wanted more of an educational element to it."

For the first week of this year's event, May 1 to May 7, students and their parents will monitor what they watch. The kids will watch cartoons, commercials and sitcoms and count things like the number of violent incidents.

The second week is being billed as a "TV Turn Down." Families will be encouraged to pick specific shows and then shut off the television when the show is over.

"We're trying to teach families to be selective about the programs they watch," Fishbaine said.

The third week will be a complete turn-off. Students will get pledge cards to record each day they don't watch the tube.

So far, schools in Roseland, Healdsburg, Windsor, Rohnert Park, Rincon Valley and Santa Rosa are among the sign-ups. A junior high school, Rincon Valley Junior High, has joined the effort for the first time.

Wallace Trujillo, principal at Biella Elementary School in Santa

**"Make TV a part
of your life, but
not the
dominant part."**

WALLACE TRUJILLO, PRINCIPAL

Rosa, said his staff decided to join the turn-off because it's a good chance to examine the role television plays in people's lives.

"It's not because we're anti-TV, but we want to call to people's attention that there are other ways

to get information and entertainment," Trujillo said.

Trujillo said he hopes participants are encouraged to read more and people will spend more time together.

"Make TV a part of your life, but not the dominant part," Trujillo said.

Rieve Rockwell, a parent who has four children in West County schools, said her family will go without television for the whole three weeks.

"I've heard that it takes three weeks to break an addiction," Rockwell said. "We'll take the TV right out of our house."

Rockwell's family was one of about 300 that three years ago turned off their televisions in the Gravenstein district.